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Signed: _____

Cindy S. Kaplan

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 09/584,237 Confirmation No.: 3785
Applicant : DAVID A. HILLARD et al.
Filed : May 31, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2666
Examiner : Shick C. Hom

Docket No. : CISC787
Customer No. : 26541
Title : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OPTIMIZED ROUTING AND PROTECTION OF VT TRAFFIC IN SONET NETWORKS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT C

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 22, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.